

C 2

71. (Amended) A method of allosterically inhibiting a Tat protein in a patient, comprising administering to a patient in need of such inhibition, in an amount effective to inhibit a Tat protein, a substituted aromatic compound of formula $\text{ArCH}_2\text{A}'\text{F}_a$, wherein

Ar represents a triphenyl ring,

$\text{CH}_2\text{A}'$ represents a nonfunctionalized linear aliphatic chain comprising 1 to 8 carbon atoms or 1 to 7 carbon atoms and 1 heteroatom or 1 to 6 carbon atoms and 2 heteroatoms, and

F_a represents a substituent comprising at least one proton acceptor or donor function capable of establishing one or more hydrogen bonds,

where the triphenyl compound is not substituted at the 2-position with $-\text{CH}_2-\text{NH}-\text{CH}_2-\text{CH}(\text{OCH}_3)_2$ or $-\text{CH}_2-\text{NH}-\text{C}(\text{CH}_3)(\text{CH}_2\text{OH})_2$.